

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of selectively distributing invitations for a plurality of events, the method comprising ~~the steps of:~~

storing event information about each of a plurality of events, wherein the event information for each of the plurality of events includes at least one or more corresponding invitee selection criteria ~~criteria~~ ~~criteria~~;

storing member information ~~about~~ for each of a plurality of members, wherein each of the plurality of members has a corresponding electronic mailbox for receiving electronic communications for storage and later retrieval by that member;

~~detecting,~~ for each of the plurality of members, detecting whether the ~~at least one~~ invitee selection criteria ~~criteria~~ for any each of the events matches the member information for that member; and

for each of the members for whom a match was detected, asynchronously sending an e-mail electronic invitation message to that member's electronic mailbox ~~at least some of the members for whom a match was detected in the detecting step,~~ wherein the ~~e-mail~~ electronic invitation message invites its recipient to ~~at least some of the events for which a match was detected in the detecting step,~~ and

wherein at least one of the ~~e-mail~~ electronic invitation messages ~~invitations~~ sent ~~in the sending step~~ invites its recipient to a plurality of events for which a match was detected ~~in the detecting steps.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one or more corresponding invitee selection criteria ~~criteria~~ ~~criteria~~ comprises an area of practice.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one or more corresponding invitee selection criteria ~~criteria~~ ~~criteria~~ for each of the plurality of events is selected by a sponsor of the respective event.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~at least one or more~~ corresponding invitee selection criteria ~~criterion~~ comprises an identifier that uniquely identifies an individual member.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~at least one or more~~ corresponding invitee selection criteria ~~criterion~~ comprises a list of identifiers, each of which uniquely identifies an individual member.

6. (Currently Amended) A method of selectively distributing invitations for a plurality of events, the method comprising ~~the steps of~~:

storing event information about each of a plurality of events, wherein the event information for each of the plurality of events includes ~~at least one or more~~ corresponding invitee selection criteria ~~criterion~~;

storing member information ~~about~~ for each of a plurality of members, wherein each of the plurality of members has a corresponding electronic mailbox for receiving electronic communications for storage and later retrieval and wherein the member information for each of the plurality of members includes ~~at least one~~ or more member preferences ~~preference~~;

determining, based on (a) matches between the member information and the ~~at least one or more~~ corresponding invitee selection criteria ~~criterion~~ for each of the plurality of events and (b) matches between the event information and the ~~at least one~~ or more member preferences ~~preference~~ for the respective members, which events each of the plurality of members should be invited to; and

sending invitations to the members based on results of the determining step, wherein the invitations are sent asynchronously via an electronic message to the electronic mailboxes ~~email~~ and at least one of the invitations invites its recipient to more than one of the events.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein, in the determining step, a decision to invite a given member to a given event requires (a) a match between the member information for the given member and the at least one invitee selection criterion for the given event and (b) a match between the event information for the given event and the member preference for the given member.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein, in the determining step, a decision to invite a given member to a given event requires (a) a match between the member information for the given member and the at least one invitee selection criterion for the given event and (b) a match between the event information for the given event and the member preference for the given member.

11. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the at least one invitee selection criterion comprises an area of practice.

12. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the at least one invitee selection criterion for each of the plurality of events is selected by a sponsor of the respective event.

13. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the at least one invitee selection criterion comprises an identifier that uniquely identifies an individual member.

14. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the at least one invitee selection criterion comprises a list of identifiers, each of which uniquely identifies an individual member.

Claims 15-18. (Canceled)